

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 01631 242041Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSM-05 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-09
EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /129 W
-----250237Z 027456 /70

R 241910Z MAY 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3727
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS USUN 1631

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, XF
SUBJ: SYG WALDHEIM'S PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 23: REMARKS ON
THE MIDDLE EAST

1. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE
EAST SINCE THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS, WALDHEIM REMARKED: "I DO
NOT THINK THERE WILL BE AN IMMEDIATE CONFRONTATION. IF I
STRESSED THE GRAVITY OF THE SITUATION, I DID NOT SAY ANYTHING
NEW. I THINK THERE CAN BE NO DOUBT THAT THE SITUATION IN THE
MIDDLE EAST IS SERIOUS AND THAT RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTI-
ATING PROCESS IS OF THE GREATEST IMPORTANCE. I STRESSED THAT
POINT IN GENEVA. OF COURSE, WE HAVE NOW TO SEE HOW THE NEW
COALITION GOVERNMENT WILL BE FORMED IN ISRAEL. IT IS EVIDENT
THAT THE TALKS IN REGARD TO A RESUMPTION OF THE GENEVA
CONFERENCE WERE HELD WITH THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, AND
THEREFORE IT IS LOGICAL THAT WE HAVE TO SEE HOW THE NEW
GOVERNMENT IN ISRAEL WILL ACT IN REGARD TO THE PROBLEMS OF
FOREIGN POLICY IN GENERAL AND SPECIFICALLY IN REGARD
TO THE MIDDLE EAST. I THEREFORE FEEL IT PREMATURE TO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 01631 242041Z

MAKE A CONCRETE COMMENT IN THIS REGARD. MUCH WILL
DEPEND ON WHAT KIND OF APPROACH THE NEW ISRAELI
GOVERNMENT WILL ADOPT TOWARDS THE MIDDLE EAST
PROBLEM.

"HAVING SAID THIS, I WISH TO STRESS AGAIN MY
GREAT PREOCCUPATION WITH THE SITUATION IN THE AREA,

AND I HOPE THAT, AFTER THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAS BEEN FORMED, CONTACTS WILL BE RESUMED SO THAT WE MAY GET A BETTER PICTURE OF THE SITUATION."

2. THE SECRETARY GENERAL CONTINUED, "SINCE THERE WERE SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS APPARTNELTY -- OR PERHAPS IT IS BETTER TO SAY "MISINTERPRETATIONS" -- OF WHAT I SAID IN GENEVA LAST WEEK, I WISH TO QUOTE WHAT I SAID AT MY PRESS CONFERENCE THERE. I SAID: 'THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS AND THAT THE CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT. IT IS VITAL THAT SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE AND POSITIVE IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS SHOULD HAPPEN THIS YEAR, BECAUSE WITHOUT PROGRESS I THINK THE DANGER WILL INCREASE, THE DANGER OF ANOTHER MILITARY CONFRONTATION.' I THINK THAT FROM THAT QUOTATION IT IS ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT I FULLY SUPPORT ALL EFFORTS TO CONVENE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, IN THE LIGHT OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS, IT IS ALSO EVIDENT THAT THERE IS A NEW SITUATION. WE HAVE TO TAKE THIS NEW SITUATION INTO ACCOUNT; IT COULD, PERHAPS, DELAY THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS, BUT I STILL HOPE THAT THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE CAN TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR."

3. TO A FURTHER QUESTION ON THE PROSPECTS FOR A GENEVA CONFERENCE, THE SYG SAID "MUCH AS I WOULD WELCOME AN EARLY CONVENING OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE -- UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 01631 242041Z

IT IS TO BE HOPED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR -- I HAVE TO STRESS THE POINT THAT WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH A NEW SITUATION AND, AS YOU RIGHTLY SAID, WE MUST PREPARE THE CONFERENCE; WE MUST CLARIFY THE POSITIONS BEFORE WE GO TO THE CONFERENCE, AS FAR AS THE PROCEDURAL ASPECTS ARE CONCERNED AS WELL AS THE SUBSTANCE. WE MUST, FOR INSTANCE, KNOW WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A CONFERENCE; THE QUESTION OF PLO PARTICIPATION IS STILL OPEN; NO AGREEMENT HAS YET BEEN REACHED IN THIS REGARD.

"THERE IS THE QUESTION OF SUBSTANCE: WHAT WILL THE FUTURE SOLUTION BE? OF COURSE, WE CANNOT EXPECT THAT THAT PROBLEM WILL BE SOLVED BEFORE THE CONFERENCE, BECAUSE THEN WE WOULD NOT NEED THE CONFERENCE. JUST TO RUBBER-STAMP SOMETHING WHICH HAS BEEN WORKED OUT IS NOT THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE. BUT WE HAVE TO GET A CERTAIN RAPPROACHEMENT OF THE DIFFERENT OPINIONS WHICH STILL EXIST -- FOR INSTANCE, ABOUT

THE CREATION OF A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND, AS PRESIDENT CARTER HAS SAID, AND ABOUT THE QUESTION OF RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND THE PALESTINIAN ENTITY. I AM JUST MENTIONING SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH ARE STILL OPEN AND ON WHICH THE OPINIONS OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS ARE STILL FAR APART.

"SO LET THERE BE NO DOUBT ABOUT THIS: I THINK WE HAVE TO BE REALISTIC; WE HAVE TO SEE THINGS AS THEY ARE. WHY CREATE THE IMPRESSION THAT THINGS ARE GOING FINE, IF, IN FACT, WE ARE STILL FAR AWAY FROM AGREEMENT ON BASIC ISSUES?

"THEREFORE, I FEEL THAT IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO USE THE MONTHS AHEAD TO CLARIFY THE SITUATION AND TO BRING THE POSITIONS CLOSER TO EACH OTHER. WE

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 01631 242041Z

WILL THEN BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO SAY WHEN THE GENEVA CONFERENCE CAN BE CONVENED.

LEONARD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PEACE TALKS, POLITICAL SITUATION, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN01631
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770185-1175
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770522/aaaaassj.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f93fd18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2384703
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SYG WALDHEIM'S PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 23: REMARKS ON THE MIDDLE EAST
TAGS: PFOR, XF, (WALDHEIM, KURT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f93fd18a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009